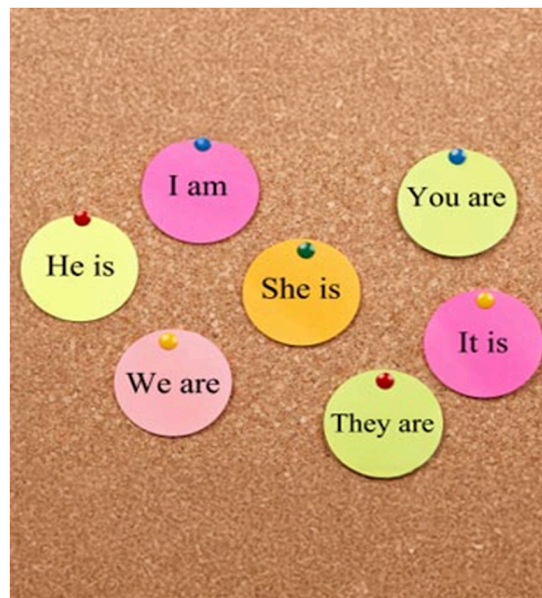


# English Grammar

## STUDY NOTES

### Adjective (I)



## Introduction to Adjectives

In English grammar, **adjectives** are used to **describe, qualify, or modify** a **noun** or a **pronoun** by providing more information about it. Not just that, but adjectives help us in understanding more about the **quality, quantity, colour, condition, shape, and size** of a **noun**. They play a very important part in adding detail and specificity to sentences.

### **Example:**

- The woman with **beautiful** hair danced gracefully.

Here, "**beautiful**" is an adjective that describes the girl's hair, adding a quality (**beauty**) to her appearance.

## Key functions of Adjectives

### **Adjectives primarily serve to:**

1. **Describe Quality:** Adjective of Quality shows the attributes, quality, or a kind of a person or thing.
  - **Example:** David is a man with a **kind** heart.
  - **Example:** Seema has **immense** talent as a ventriloquist.
2. **Express Quantity:** Denoting "**how much**" or "**how many**" in a given sentence.
  - **Example:** Over the years, Rahul has collected **many** pairs of shoes.
  - **Example:** They didn't have **enough** money to buy the house.
3. **Show Specificity:** It is used to point out **specific persons or things**. Such adjectives include: **this, that, these, those**.
  - **Example:** I always preferred **this** book over that one.
  - **Example:** **These** pairs of Jordans are more exclusive than most of the other shoes in the market.
4. **Compare Nouns:** These are used to compare one noun to another.

- **Example:** The Eiffel tower is **taller** than the leaning tower of Pisa.
- **Example:** Abdul's Bugatti is **faster** than David's ferrari.

## Types of Adjectives

### 1. Descriptive or Qualitative Adjectives

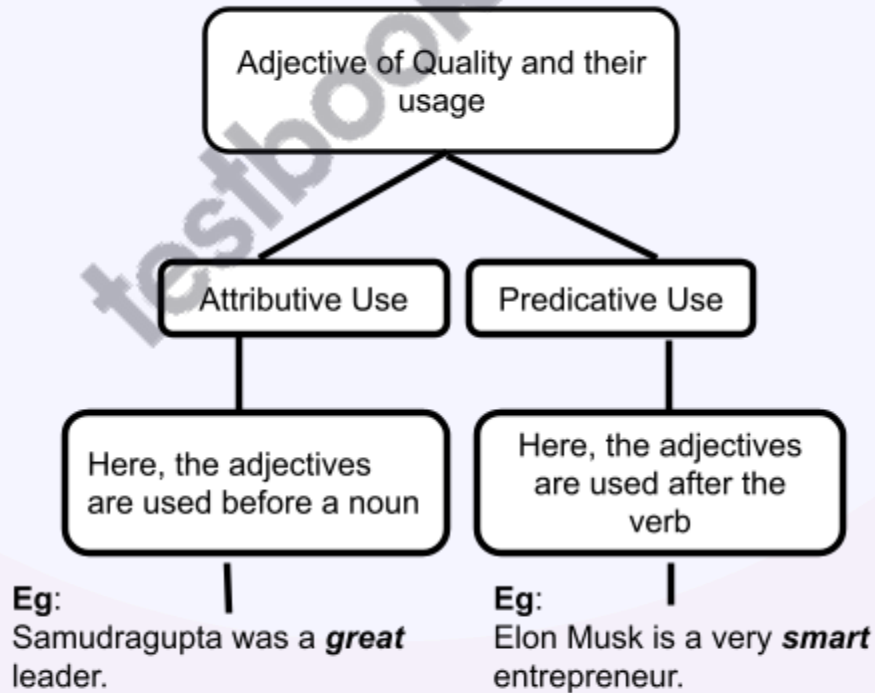
Such adjectives describe the qualities of a noun, irrespective of whether the quality is inherent or temporary.

#### Examples:

- She wore a **beautiful** saree.
- The second Friday of July turned out to be a very **hot** day.

#### Explanation:

- **Beautiful** and **hot** describe the appearance and temperature respectively.



## 2. Quantitative Adjectives

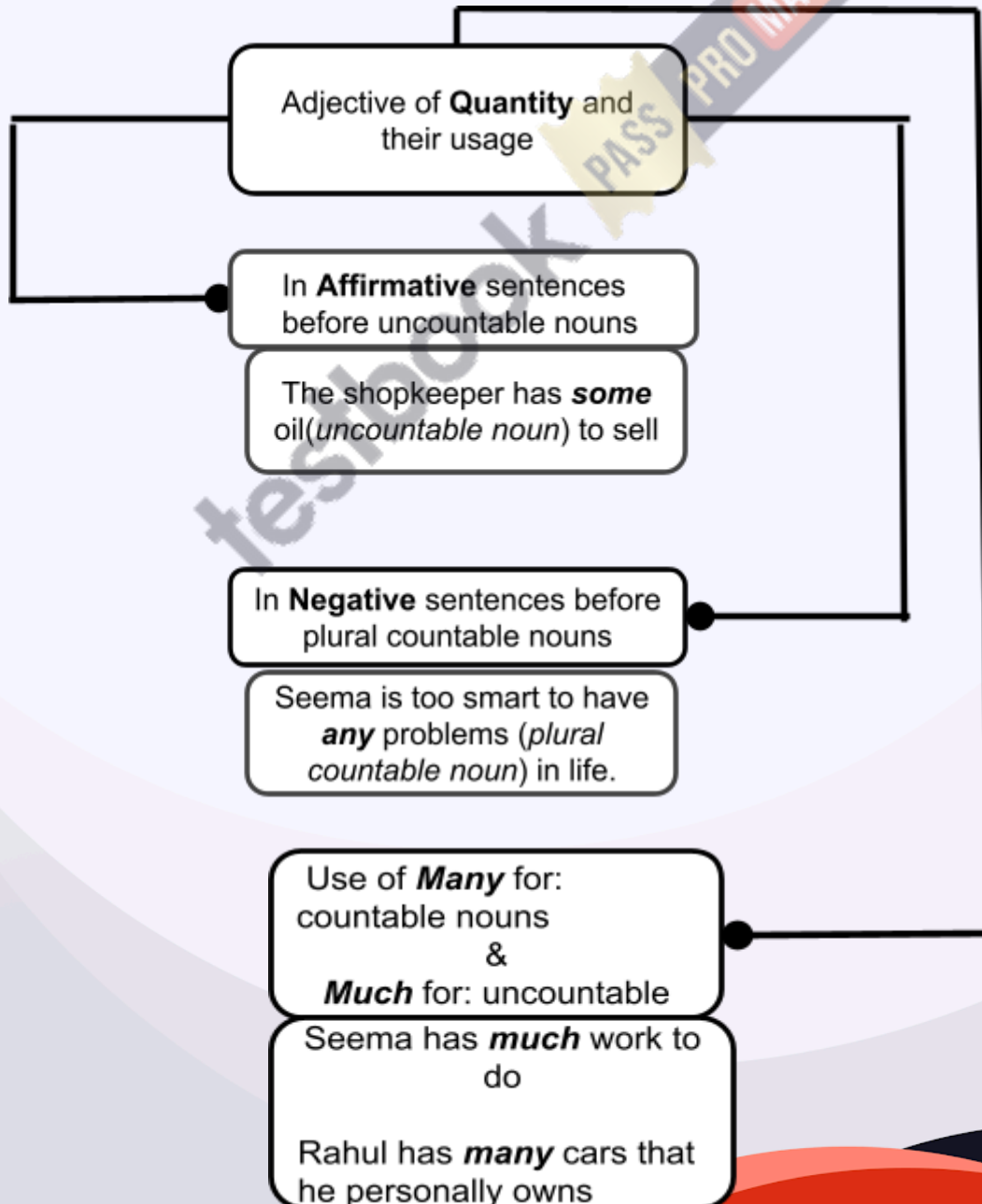
It is used to denote the **amount** or **degree** of nouns, typically **uncountable** nouns, to show how much of it actually exists. Some adjectives denoting quantity include: **some**, **all**, **any**, **much**, **many** etc.

### Examples:

- Seema gave me **some** water.
- The monkey ate **all the bananas**.

### Explanation:

- **Some** and **all** express an unknown quantity of water and bananas respectively.



### 3. Numeral Adjectives

**Numeral adjectives** are the ones that tell us about the number of nouns or pronouns used in a sentence.

#### Types of Numeral Adjectives:

- Cardinal Numerals: It denotes the exact numbers.**  
**Example:** Seema bought *two* pens from the nearby shop.  
**Example:** The guest ordered *three* apples from the room service.
- Ordinal Numerals: These denote order or position.**  
**Example:** Although he trained way more than the rest yet he came *second* in the race.  
**Example:** This is the *fifth* hurricane to hit Japan this year.
- Distributive Numerals:** These refer to each or every individual or person in a group or in a team. Some Distributive Numerals include: *Each, Every, Either, Neither, None* etc.  
**Example:** *Every* student must submit his homework.  
**Example:** *None* of the answers she gave turned out to be correct.

### 4. Demonstrative Adjectives

Such **adjectives** are used in pointing out specific **nouns**. They are generally used when indicating the nouns they modify, to be **singular** or **plural** and also tell us about their **proximity** from the speaker.

#### Examples of Demonstrative Adjectives

Demonstrative Adjectives	Modified Noun to be:	Example Sentences
<i>This</i>	Singular, Near	<i>This</i> book is written by Amish Tripathi.
<i>That</i>	Singular, Far	<i>That</i> red car over there is mine.
<i>These</i>	Plural, Near	<i>These</i> flowers were gifted to me by Joe.
<i>Those</i>	Plural, Far	<i>Those</i> balloons look magnificent in the sky.

## 5. Possessive Adjectives

They are used to show ownership or relationship. They are used before nouns to indicate their ownership over their respective nouns in sentences. Some examples of possessive adjectives are **My, Your, His, Her, Its, Our, Their** etc.

### Examples:

- **My** car is parked outside in the rain.
- **Their** house is very large.

### Explanation:

- **My:** Tells us that the car belongs to me, giving a clear indication of the ownership of the car.
- **Their:** Tell us that the car belongs to them.

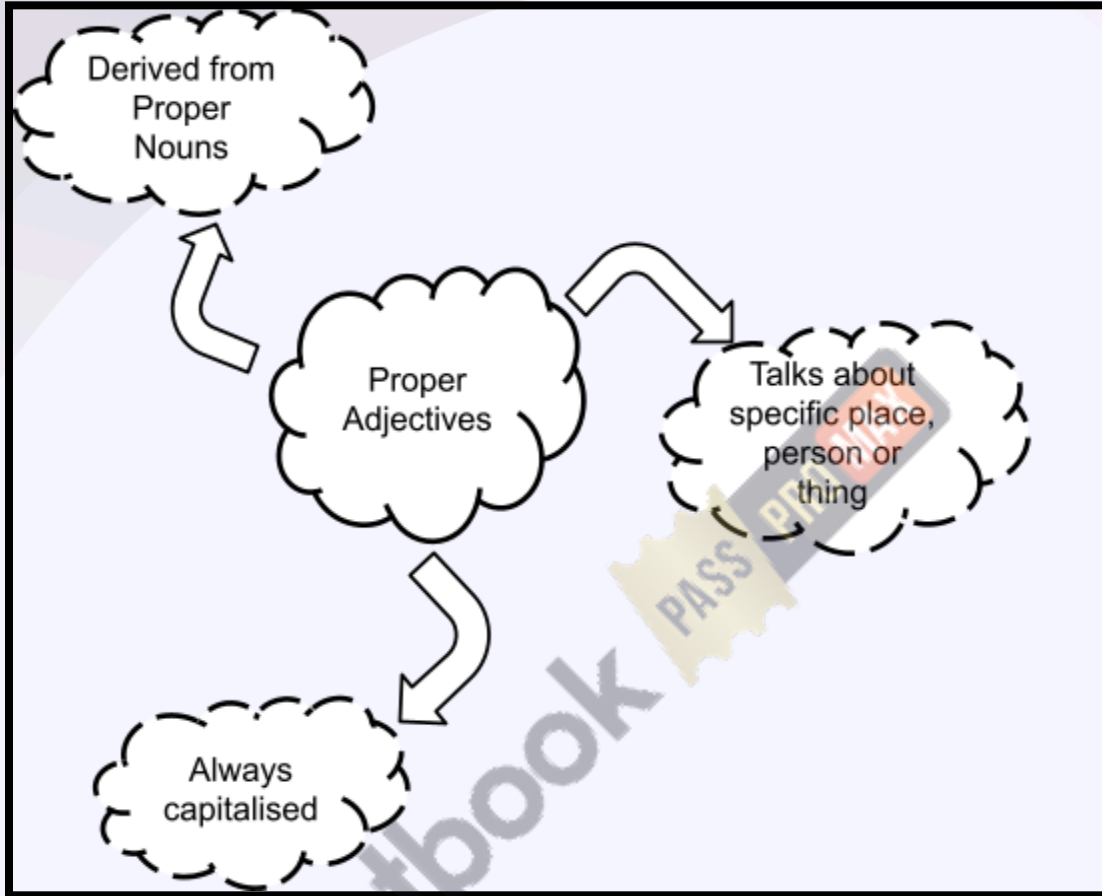
## 6. Interrogative Adjectives

Such **adjectives** are used especially when we want to ask any question and are placed before **nouns** to enquire about specific information.

**Example Of Interrogative Adjectives** along with their **example** sentences

Interrogative Adjective	Example
<b>What</b>	<b>What</b> kind of music do you like?
<b>Which</b>	<b>Which</b> incident are you referring to?
<b>Whose</b>	<b>Whose</b> idea was it to book this hotel?

## 7. Proper Adjectives



### Examples:

- Seema loves **Chinese** cuisine.
- She is an **Indian** actress and also the winner of Miss Universe pageant.
- Seema loves watching **Shakespearean** plays at the galaxy theater.

### Explanation:

- **Chinese** refers to something related to China (which is a proper noun).
- **Indian** refers to a person from India (which is a proper noun).

## 8. Distributive Adjectives

**Distributive adjectives** are used to refer to each individual person or thing in a group, as individuals. Some examples of distributive adjectives are **Each, Every, Either, Neither**.

**Examples:**

- **Each** candidate must submit his assignment at the earliest.
- **Neither** of the answers submitted was correct.

**Explanation:**

- **Each** denotes every single candidate. (hence, 'his' is used)
- **Neither** refers to any of the answers submitted (hence, 'was' is used)

**Reminder:** **Each, Every, Neither, Either** only when used before **nouns**, become **adjectives**.

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## ***Degrees of Comparison - Definition***

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In English grammar, **adjectives** are used to describe and give more meaning to the nouns used in sentences. There are times when more than one noun having the same quality, sometimes one even outdoing the others, are used in sentences. In such cases, we use **degrees of comparison** in order to compare between words of similar qualities.

### **Different Types of Degrees of Comparison**

According to English grammar, there are **three** types of Degrees of Comparison:

#### **1. Positive Degree**

This is the base form, or we can call it the original form of **adjective**. In this form, there are **no comparisons** involved. It only gives the readers information about an attribute or a quality that a noun possesses.

**Examples:**

- Seema is a very **smart** girl.
- Donald Trump lives in a **big** house in Manhattan.

**Explanation:**

- No comparisons are being made in the above two examples. The **adjectives** mentioned here just describe a quality.

## 2. Comparative Degree

The comparative degree is used to **compare** between the same qualities in two different nouns mentioned in the same sentence. It gives a description of which one of the two has the greater or lesser degree of a certain quality in a given situation.

### Examples:

- Seema is **smarter** than her elder brother.
- This building is a **bigger** version of the one present in the film city.

### Explanation:

- **Smarter** and **bigger** compare two persons and two buildings, respectively.

## 3. Superlative Degree

This denotes the highest form of comparison. It is used to compare between similar qualities shared by more than two nouns at least, giving us an idea about which of the nouns having the greatest of the least degree of a certain quality as per the context of a given sentence.

### Examples:

- Seema was *the **smartest*** girl in the class.
- This is *the **biggest*** stadium in the world.

### Explanation:

- **Smartest** refers to the fact that no other student in the class comes close to the intellect of Seema, making her the top student in the class.
- **Biggest** refers to the fact that no other stadium in the world comes close to the size of the one mentioned in the sentence.

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### ***Important rules for degrees of comparison***

- **Short adjectives** (one syllable): **long** → **longer** → **longest**.
- **Adjectives that end in -y**: Change **-y** to **-ier** or **-iest**. (*merry* → *merrier* → *merriest*).
- **Longer adjectives** (two or more than two syllables): Use **more** or **most**. (*intelligent* → *more intelligent* → *most intelligent*).

### Exam- oriented questions based on the above rules:

#### Adjective of Quality

**Incorrect:** David is man with a kind heart.

**Correct:** David is a man with a kind heart.

**Explanation:** "A" is needed before "man" to correctly indicate one man with a specific quality of kindness.

#### Adjective of Quantity

**Incorrect:** They didn't have much money to buy the house.

**Correct:** They didn't have enough money to buy the house.

**Explanation:** "Enough" is the correct adjective of quantity in this context, indicating the amount of money required to buy the house.

#### Adjective of Specificity

**Incorrect:** I always preferred that book over these one.

**Correct:** I always preferred this book over that one.

**Explanation:** "This" is used to specify the book close to the speaker, while "that" refers to one further away. "These" and "one" cannot be used together as they indicate different quantities.

### Adjective for Comparison

**Incorrect:** Abdul's Bugatti is fast than David's Ferrari.

**Correct:** Abdul's Bugatti is faster than David's Ferrari.

**Explanation:** "Faster" is the correct comparative form of the adjective to show a comparison between the speed of two cars.

### Descriptive or Qualitative Adjectives

**Incorrect:** The second Friday of July was a hot day.

**Correct:** The second Friday of July turned out to be a very hot day.

**Explanation:** "Very" adds emphasis to "hot," indicating the high temperature more clearly.

### Quantitative Adjectives

**Incorrect:** Seema gave me any water.

**Correct:** Seema gave me some water.

**Explanation:** "Some" is the correct quantitative adjective to express an indefinite amount of water in this context.

### Cardinal Numeral Adjectives

**Incorrect:** Seema bought pens two from the nearby shop.

**Correct:** Seema bought two pens from the nearby shop.

**Explanation:** "Two" is a cardinal numeral adjective that should precede the noun "pens" to indicate the exact number.

### Ordinal Numeral Adjectives

**Incorrect:** He came the second in the race.

**Correct:** He came second in the race.

**Explanation:** "Second" is an ordinal numeral indicating position. "The" is not required here as "second" directly qualifies his position in the race.

### **Distributive Numeral Adjectives**

**Incorrect:** Each of students must submit his homework.

**Correct:** Each student must submit his homework.

**Explanation:** "Each" directly modifies "student" to refer to every individual, without the need for "of" in this construction.

### **Demonstrative Adjectives**

**Incorrect:** That balloons look magnificent in the sky.

**Correct:** Those balloons look magnificent in the sky.

**Explanation:** "Those" is used for plural nouns that are far from the speaker, making "those balloons" correct.

### **Possessive Adjectives**

**Incorrect:** Them house is very large.

**Correct:** Their house is very large.

**Explanation:** "Their" is the correct possessive adjective indicating ownership by a group or individual.

### **Interrogative Adjectives**

**Incorrect:** Which is your favorite type of music?

**Correct:** What kind of music do you like?

**Explanation:** "What" is the correct interrogative adjective when asking about a type of music without a specific selection in mind.

### Proper Adjectives

**Incorrect:** She loves indian cuisine.

**Correct:** She loves Indian cuisine.

**Explanation:** "Indian" is a proper adjective and should be capitalized as it refers to the cuisine of India.

### Distributive Adjectives

**Incorrect:** Neither of answer was correct.

**Correct:** Neither of the answers was correct.

**Explanation:** "Neither" correctly modifies "answers," referring to each one individually, and "the" is needed to complete the phrase.

### Positive Degree

**Incorrect:** Seema is smartest girl in her class.

**Correct:** Seema is a very smart girl.

**Explanation:** The positive degree "smart" simply describes Seema without comparison, and "a" is needed to complete the phrase.

### Comparative Degree

**Incorrect:** This building is big than the one in the city.

**Correct:** This building is bigger than the one in the city.

**Explanation:** "Bigger" is the comparative form to correctly show that one building is larger than the other.

### **Superlative Degree**

**Incorrect:** This is more biggest stadium in the world.

**Correct:** This is the biggest stadium in the world.

**Explanation:** "Biggest" is the superlative form of "big," indicating that no other stadium compares in size, and "the" is used before superlatives.

